

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

ROBERT J. LARSON,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Case No.: 07-CV-7283
)	
PEAK6 INVESTMENTS, LP, ARTHUR)	Judge Marvin E. Aspen
JOHN HASS, III, NANCY MCKINNEY AND)	
DANIEL MAX ROSENTHAL,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

**INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
OF THEIR MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT**

Defendants Arthur John Hass, III, Nancy McKinney and Daniel Rosenthal, through their attorneys Franczek Sullivan P.C. and pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6), have moved to dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. In support of their Motion, Defendants state:

Background

Defendants Rosenthal and Hass are employed by OptionsHouse, a subsidiary of Defendant PEAK6 Investments, LP, as its Co-Chief Executive Officers. Defendant McKinney is employed by PEAK6 Investments as its Director of Human Resources. On December 28, 2007, Plaintiff Robert Larson filed a Complaint alleging that OptionsHouse/PEAK6, his former employer, subjected him to age discrimination in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621 *et seq.* (the "ADEA"). Plaintiff's Complaint also named Hass, McKinney and Rosenthal as individual defendants.

Argument

Plaintiff seeks to impose liability on three individual defendants for alleged employment discrimination in violation of the ADEA. It is well-settled, however, that there is no basis for individual liability under the ADEA because an individual does not constitute an “employer” for purposes of the statute. See e.g., Horwitz v. Bd. Of Educ., 260 F.3d 602, 610 n.2 (7th Cir. 2001) (noting there is no individual liability under the ADEA); Cheng v. Benson, 358 F. Supp. 2d 696, 700 (N.D. Ill. 2005) (“there is no individual or supervisor liability under the ADEA”); Whitchurch v. Apache Prods. Co., 916 F. Supp. 809, 812 (N.D. Ill. 1996) (because individuals do not meet the definition of an “employer” for purposes of the ADEA, they “cannot be held liable for discrimination claims brought pursuant to [the statute]”). Accordingly, Plaintiff fails to state claims against Hass, McKinney or Rosenthal upon which relief can be granted.

Conclusion

Because there is no basis for individual liability under the ADEA, Plaintiff’s claims against Defendants Hass, McKinney and Rosenthal should be dismissed in their entirety pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6).

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR JOHN HASS, III, NANCY
MCKINNEY and DANIEL MAX ROSENTHAL

s/Thomas J. Posey

One of Their Attorneys

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Dated: March 17, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on March 17, 2008, I electronically filed the foregoing **INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THEIR MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT** with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system and sent notification of such filing to the party listed below by depositing a true and correct copy of same, postage prepaid, in the U.S. Mail chute at 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois, prior to 5:00 p.m. on this 17th day of March, 2008:

Mr. Robert J. Larson
5334 North Kenmore
Apartment No. 1N
Chicago, Illinois 60640

s/Thomas J. Posey

Thomas J. Posey

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